PUDUKKOTTAI STATE

WAR INFORMATION BUREAU

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His Majesty the King Emperor has awarded the George Cross to Malta. This is the first time the Emperor has conferred a decoration on a part of the British Commonwealth.

(*It is learnt that it was the Emperor's own idea to confer the decoration and it will probably be placed in the Malta Cathedral. Henceforth, the George Cross will be embodied in the arms of Malta*).

His Majesty in conferring the distinction sent the following message to the Governor of Malta :—

" To honour her brave people, I award the George Cross to the Island Fortress of Malta to bear witness to the heroism and devotion that will long be famous in history—Signed George R.I."

MALTA'S HEROISM

" Out of the cloudless cobalt blue sky of the day, out of the searchlight-pierced night 500 Axis aircraft in the past few weeks have showered bombs on the 91 square miles that is Malta, subjecting it to the heaviest air attack that has ever been delivered against an objective of comparable size.

"High explosives have slashed great gaping wounds across the historic port of Valetta, and incendiaries have made torches out of buildings which reached back to the start of Christian Era.

"Yet the island fortress still stands, strong and undaunted, firmly athwart the German-Italian sealine to Africa, the foremost bastion of that great continent.

"Its people, after enduring over 2,000 bombing and machine-gunning raids are living under what is virtually a continuous air-raid alarm, and have created "raid-normal life".

HOMES IN ROCKS.

"Thousands of shelters have been hewn out of the rock, and to many of the Maltese these are now "home."

"So indiscriminately have the Axis distributed their bomb-loads that there are no evacuation areas left. Many of the babies born since Italy entered the war have known no other home than did the children of early man. Sunset is the signal to seek safety in caves, or underground.

"The process of patching is incessant. There are patched roads, patched homes in narrow bomb-torn streets, patched offices and shops. Water, electric light, gas and telephone all have been frequently cut, but not for long.

"Devout Catholics, the Maltese have seen with sorrow many churches damaged, including the famous Saint John's Cathedral. The historic church built where Saint Paul landed when he was shipwrecked, has been completely destroyed.

"Devotions are now made however in shelters, in each of which there is at least one altar, adorned always with masses of flowers and candles. At the cost of scores of aircraft and hundreds of airmen the Germans are learning that they can kill the Maltese people, but they cannot destroy their 1,000 year-old tradition of resistance to unwanted would-be conquerors.

"Just as their forefathers withstood the Turks in 1565 in the great siege which made the island famous, so to-day the Maltese are fighting for "Death or Victory."

LECTURE XCII.

THE DEFENCE OF INDIA.

H. E. SIR ARCHIBALD WAVELL'S BROADCAST TO THE INDIAN PEOPLE.

When a country which has been for so long secure from any threat of external aggression, as India, finds itself suddenly and unexpectedly open to attack, it is natural that some part of the people, especially in those quarters most exposed, should show alarm and doubt—alarm at the danger to themselves and their families, doubt of the ability of those responsible for their defence to make that defence effective."

To India the military events of the past few months have been peculiarly disconcerting. After two and a half years of fiercely-waged war, India stood untouched and practically unthreatened, thanks largely to the great exploits of her own gallant troops forming part of the Imperial forces, which in Libya and elsewhere, met and defeated the menace from the west.

India had sent out similar outpost forces to the east, and had reason to expect that they, too, would keep the danger at a distance and show equal qualities of resistance.

The events in Malaya and Burma have therefore naturally been a grave shock to the Indian people, and have caused doubts and fears, which have been magnified by the enemy's boastful propaganda, and by the tales of those who have fled before the storm and escaped from Singapore or Rangoon.

NO FALSE AND EASY ASSURANCES.

I am here, as the man on whom the main responsibility for the defence of India falls, not to give you false and easy assurances, not to tell you that danger does not exist; but to put that danger in a proper perspective, and to tell you something of the measures that have been taken to meet that danger.

Let me begin by an assurance I can give you without any hesitation—that our ultimate victory in the war against the brutality and aggression of the Axis Powers is beyond all doubt.

GALLANT ALLIES.

You have on your side the four toughest and most enduring races of the world. The British may be idle and easy-going in times of peace, but their core is as hard and unyielding as ever, adversity strips off the soft husk and reveals that core ; they will never give in.

The Chinese, oldest civilisation of the world, have, though half-armed, stubbornly defended their civilisation for nearly five years against the upstart Japanese and will continue to do so to the end.

The Russians have endured an armoured onslaught by the Germans on a scale never equalled and have thrown it back as they have thrown back so many other invaders; their endurance is everlasting. The Americans, of whose determination to assist India to the utmost of their inexhaustible resources you already see such evidence—do they strike you as a people who will let go once they have taken a hold? So you need not worry about our victory, it is only a question of when and how.

TRIBUTES TO INDIAN SOLDIER.

Another assurance I can give you with confidence is of the quality of the troops that defend India. Let nothing that has happened in Malaya or Burma shake your faith in the fighting powers of the British or Indian soldier, or lead you to think too highly of the Japanese.

I will not here go into the mistakes of preparation and training that placed our troops at such a disadvantage in those theatres; the lessons have been taken to heart, and I hope that the mistakes will not be repeated. The Japanese are tough soldiers and fight well, but man for man, on anything like equal terms, our soldiers are as good, and better.

The stubborn resistance that the tired and heroic defenders of Burma are putting up after four months' fighting, almost without rest or relief, in most difficult conditions against superior numbers, is a proof of the quality of our men.

DEFENCE OF INDIA.

To come to the defence of India itself. The immediate danger is that of air-attack. Attack from the air, especially the bombing of cities, has caused in the minds of many people an exaggerated impression of horror and danger.

Before the war, writers of imagination prophesied wholesale and terrible destruction. The savage ruthlessness shown by the German brutes against Rotterdam, and against some towns and cities in Great Britain, has instilled fear, as it was meant to do, into the minds of other peoples; but it did not break the resistance or terrorise the minds, be it noted, of the Dutch and British peoples who suffered under them.

Our enemies, as part of the war of nerves, have deliberately sought to create panic.

The tales of refugees have been spread over the country and been exaggerated; but remember this, that the stories of refugees from danger are always apt to be overcoloured and unreliable.

I do not minimise the danger. But I want to give you a few facts to get the danger into a proper perspective.

ENEMY AIR ATTACKS.

Firstly, it is not in the power of the Japanese to bring air attack against the cities of India on anything approaching the scale, in intensity or continuity, of the German attack on Great Britain, or of our air attacks on Germany.

I was in Singapore only a few days before its surrender, when it had been experiencing continuous raiding for some time at the maximum scale which the Japanese air force could bring to bear—a far heavier scale than the enemy can yet bring against any target in India.

Yet Singapore had few scars, and there were few casualties military or civilian, in spite of inadequate defences, except for one raid, when casualties were heavy through failure to take cover, the same is true of Rangoon.

So far, the Japanese have seldom resorted to indiscriminate bombing of the civil population, though they will no doubt do so if it suits their purpose.

But I can assure you that if the people keep their heads, and take the precautions laid down by the A. R. P. service, casualties will not be heavy, and that an air raid produces more noise and dirt than loss of life or injuries.

DEFENCES READY.

Secondly, I can tell you that our defences by fighter aircraft and A.-A. guns are already, in the most threatened quarters of India, strong enough to cause Japanese raiders heavier loss than they have yet suffered elsewhere.

Already, in their attacks on Colombo and Trincomalee in Ceylon, they have had a high proportion of loss, in spite of great numerical superiority, as they did in their attacks on Rangoon last winter.

Our defences are growing in strength almost daily, and expanding all over India.

I am not suggesting that it is anything like as strong as I should wish, but it is much stronger than it was even a few weeks ago, and completely different from our comparative defencelessness against air attacks a few months ago. Before very long it will be much stronger still.

There are three main requirements for effective defence against air attack:

Fighter aircraft and A.-A. guns.

A. R. P. arrangements.

The spirit and discipline of the people.

And of these three the last is the most important.

PROSPECT OF INVASION.

As perhaps a less immediate danger, though a real one, there is the prospect of invasion by sea and land.

That the shores of India are threatened is obvious ; and that the enemy might even attempt a landing in force is equally obvious.

Until the United Nations have the sea power to drive the Japanese from the Indian Ocean—a time which may not be so far distant—a landing somewhere on the coast may be attempted by the enemy.

It is impossible to erect defences along the whole immense coastline of India, or to place soldiers to guard all points. I certainly do not intend to do so.

India will be defended by a powerful air striking force, which will attack the enemy ships as they approach, and by a land striking force which will concentrate rapidly against any threatened point.

Air and land forces already in being for this purpose are being improved in strength and mobility.

JAP DIFFICULTIES.

Our danger is clear to us and seems great. It is a golden rule for a Commander, or for anyone, when in difficulties to turn and examine the difficulties and dangers of his opponent.

Consider the distance the Japanese are from their bases, the enormous area over which their war effort is already dispersed, the vulnerability to sea and air attack of their line of communications towards India, the immensity of the country they would be seeking to conquer.

They may raid India, they may even seek to occupy a portion temporarily, but so long as India remains true to herself she can never be conquered.

I hope I have given you some reason to regard the future with more confidence.

We have a difficult and dangerous period ahead, and my responsibility to you is heavy.

NOTHING CAN STOP VICTORY.

I can assure you of these things, of the realisation by the Allied nations of the danger to India and of the importance of India to the general war effort ; of their resolution to send aid to the Indian people and to defend India to the utmost ; and of their unshakable will to fight on to the end.

Nothing can stop us winning the war, but defeatism or unreasoning panic may hinder and delay victory.

Some of India's most prominent leaders have lately given a stirring call towards resistance and against defeatism. If all in India of every class and creed, British and Indian, official and non-official, will face the danger, calmly stay at their posts in office, or factory, or village, and will work wholeheartedly for India at this crisis, we have nothing to fear, and a heavy portion of the responsibility I bear will be lifted from my shoulders.

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

18—4—42 to 24—4—42.

Burma.—Heartening news comes of the recapture of YENANGYAUNG, the centre of the oil-fields in Western BURMA, by the combined action of British and Chinese troops. Last week, as was reported, as a result of Japanese infiltration, the oil-fields were 'scorched' and evacuated. Meanwhile, Chinese reinforcements arriving from KYAUKPADAUNA (EAST BURMA) joined up with British forces north of the area, and carried out an attack on the place, the Imperial forces charging from the south simultaneously. Thus the Japanese were encircled and YENANGYAUNG retaken.

Pursuing the advantage thus gained, the enemy has been driven further south over three miles. On the SITTANG Front, Chinese and Japanese forces are engaged around PYIUMANNA. On the SALWEEN Front, fighting is taking place at BAWLAKE, 60 miles north-east of TOUNGOO. Allied troops hold TAUNGDWINGYI, on the railway between the IRRAWADDY and the SALWEEN.

The Japanese main drive at present is directed on LOIKAW, west of the Salween river, in an attempt to turn the Chinese left flank.

The R. A. F. has raided ALLANMYO, BASSEIN, GWA BAY, SANDOWAY and ANDREW BAY.

Philippines and South-west Pacific.—More Japanese troops have been landed on PANAY Island, in the vicinity of SANJOSE on the south-west coast. CORREGIDOR, FORT HUGHES and FORT DRUM continue to be shelled. American and Filippino forces carried out a successful raid on North-LUZON. A Japanese light cruiser, (the 59th to be so dealt

with) was attacked by two U. S. torpedo-boats off CEBU and left sinking. The Japanese have effected landings at ILOILO, CAPIS and ANTIQUE. Australian and Dutch resistance continues in TIMOR.

Japan has had the first taste of her own medicine. On Saturday, at noon, TOKYO, YOKOHAMA, KOBE and NAGOYA were attacked by American planes borne over vast distances on Air-craft carriers. Airraid warnings have since been repeated. As a result commanders of Japanese home defence units will be court-martialled, and the TOKYO War office will suffer a shake-up. For the last three days in succession Japanese planes have been reconnoitring over CHINA, and attacking cities and towns in the CHEKIANG, FUKIEN, KWANGSI and SZECHUIN areas. Though the reconnaissance has not led to any discovery, it is believed that the Japanese sent out their aircraft in fear that the planes that attacked TOKYO were resting in Chinese air-ports.

It is strange that JAPAN should charge AMERICA with 'callous inhumanity' in this connection, and accuse her of 'playing up' the news 'for propaganda purposes', while as a matter of fact the U. S. from the President downward maintain absolute silence over the incident for want of official information. CHUNGKING too, though much nearer, has kept silent, but for the message it has sent that the planes that invaded JAPAN had reached their destination safely. It is the Japanese, who state that the planes after their mission have landed in CHINA.

Russia.—The period of slush and mud is likely to last in varying degrees for another six weeks. Meanwhile, both the Germans and Russians are trying to make the best use of the intervening period. The Red Army continues to gnaw into the German positions by employing ceaseless offensive tactics calculated, by cutting off communications, wrecking supply trains and destroying local garrisons, to prevent the massing of German forces for the impending offensive. On the other hand, the Germans try to hold on to what they have already gained, and reduce the margin of the Russian initiative. The week shows a continuous record of Russian successes, though local, on the Finnish, SMOLENSK, KALININ, BRYANSK and LENINGRAD fronts. German efforts to reach MURMANSK have failed. General Von Leeb, it is reported, has been replaced for failure to take LENINGRAD.

Both sides are massing big forces on the Southern UKRAINE front, where the ground is now reported to be dry enough for operations.

Russian re-inforcements are coming to the KERCH PENINSULA, where it is believed a Russian attack on THEDOSIA is imminent. The Germans are reported to be launching bombing raids on the CAUCASUS.

Libya.—During the best part of the week operations were impeded by the blowing of hot winds—the 'khamsins:', and with the improvement of the weather in the past few days British patrols and columns are probing the new Axis forward line, now being consolidated by the enemy.

Malta.—The attacks on MALTA have been resumed. but the island which hitherto depended mainly on its splendid ground defences only, has been reinforced by the arrival of fresh R. A. F. contingents.

Augsburg was raided on the 17th by the Royal Air Force in full daylight, travelling over a distance of 600 miles from BRITAIN. AUGSBURG (population 165,000) is an important railway junction in BAVARIA, in the heart of GERMANY—the home of the Messerschmitt works where the German planes are manufactured, and of the M. A. N. Factory which turns out Diesel engines for the German submarines. Important raids were also carried out over St. OMER, CALAIS, ROUEN and CHERBOURG.

Vichy.—Under German pressure, and in order to serve German interests, Laval has been appointed Chief of Government. In the new administration Pétain will continue to be the nominal chief, but real power will be shared between Laval, who will be the Minister of Information, the Interior, and Foreign Affairs, and Darlan who will have command of Vichy forces on land, sea and air. In a speech broadcast on April 20, Laval stated that his return to power had a meaning—which was 'the rapprochement of FRANCE and GERMANY'—to establish 'European peace'. On the same day, 35 French hostages were executed in occupied FRANCE, following the derailment on April 16 of a train carrying German troops. M. Mondanas who arrested Laval in December 1940 has been dismissed. M. Leon Marchal, Counsellor to the French Embassy in WASHINGTON has resigned following Laval's speech. Anti-Laval demonstrations have taken place at CAIRO South AFRICA has broken off relations with VICHY.

ALLIED Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied COUNTRIES.

Date. / Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Allies.	Aircraft losses for Enemies.
13—4—42 (Monday).			
GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).			
NIGHT :—			
Patrol over the ENGLISH CHANNEL.			
LIBYA. (By British planes)			
Enemy aerodromes at DERNA and MARTUBA.			
Military objectives at BENGHAZI and BARCE areas.			
RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).			
Aircraft and air combats on the aerodromes along the whole front.		6 planes.	13 planes.
FAR EAST—BURMA. (By American and British planes).			
Enemy troop concentrations and rivercraft conveying troops on the IRRAWADDY Front.			
The aerodrome at TOUNGOO.			
Enemy forces north of PROME.			
ANDAMANS. (By American and British planes).			
Concentration of enemy flying boats in Port BLAIR harbour.			
14—4—42 (Tuesday).			
GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).			
DAY :—			
Offensive sweeps over Northern FRANCE.			
A power station and other objectives in Northern FRANCE.	}	4 planes.	
Military objectives in the CALAIS and BOULOGNE areas.	}		
NIGHT :—			
Industrial objectives in the RUHR.			
A supply ship off the NORWEGIAN coast.	Sunk.		
LIBYA. (By British planes).			
Offensive activities over the forward areas of CYRENAICA.			
BENGHAZI.			
RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).			
Air combats and aircraft along the whole front.		4 planes.	20 planes.
FAR EAST—NEW BRITAIN. (By American and British planes).			
The harbour at RABAUL.	1 ship hit.		
PHILIPPINES. (By American and British planes).			
The airfield at NICHOLLS near MANILA.	Damaged.	} 1 plane.	} 3 planes.
A freighter off the coast of BATAAN.	Sunk.		
Enemy planes on the ground in an airfield near DAVAO (in MINDANAO).	Several plnaes damaged.		
Warehouses at DAVAO.			
Two transports in the gulf of DAVAO.			
The airfield at CEBU city.			
5 transports and the docks in CEBU.	3 transports sunk and 2 hit.		
15—4—42 (Wednesday).			
GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).			
DAY :—			
Offensive sweeps over the ENGLISH CHANNEL and Northern FRANCE.			
The docks at CHERBOURG.			
The CALAIS area.			
NIGHT :—			
The docks at ST. NAZAIRE and LE HAVRE			
Aerodromes in LOW COUNTRIES.			
Laying mines in enemy waters.			
LIBYA. (By British planes).			
Offensive sweeps over the forward areas in CYRENAICA.			

RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).

Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole front. — 5 planes. 32 planes.

FAR EAST—BURMA. (By American and British planes).

Enemy forces behind the Front.

16—4—42 (Thursday).

GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).

DAY:—

Offensive sweeps over Northern FRANCE.
The power station and docks at LE HAVRE.
The dock area at DUNKIRK.
An aerodrome in CHERBOURG Peninsula.
— 2 planes. 5 planes.

NIGHT:—

RUHR and other districts in North-west GERMANY.

Laying mines in enemy waters.

LIBYA. (By British planes).

Offensive sweeps over the forward areas in CYRENAICA.

BENGHAZI.

RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).

Air combats and aircraft along the whole front. — 5 planes. 16 planes.

FAR EAST BURMA. (By American and British planes).

RANGOON.

17—4—42 (Friday).

GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).

MORNING:—

Offensive sweeps over the CHERBOURG Peninsula.
MARQUISE.

AFTERNOON:—

Targets at ST. OMER and CALAIS
The railway line at CALAIS.
The power station, shipyards and fuel tanks at ROUEN.
The docks at CHERBOURG.

EVENING:—

An important factory in the South German town of AUGSBURG.

NIGHT:—

The port of HAMBURG.
The submarine base at ST. NAZAIRE.
The docks at LE HAVRE.
Laying mines in enemy waters.
Aerodromes in FRANCE and Low COUNTRIES.
— 3 planes. 9 planes.

LIBYA. (By British planes).

Objectives at BENGHAZI and in the BERKA area.

Offensive sweeps over the forward areas.

RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).

Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole front. — 4 planes. 6 planes.

FAR EAST—NEW BRITAIN. (By American and British planes).

RABAUL. — Ships hit.

TIMOR (Dutch). (By American and British planes).

KOEPANG.

18—4—42 (Saturday).

GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).

DAY:—

Offensive sweeps over northern FRANCE.

Railways in the CALAIS area.

NIGHT:—

No operation due to unfavourable weather.

LIBYA. (By British planes).

Offensive sweeps over the forward areas of CYRENAICA.

BENGHAZI.

RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).

Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole front. — 5 planes. 14 planes.

FAR EAST—BURMA. (By American and British planes).

MAGWE and **SINPAUNCWE SAINGGYA.**

ALLIED Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied COUNTRIES—*cont.*

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Allies.	Aircraft losses for Enemies.
	ANDAMANS. (By American and British planes).			
	Flying boats at Port BLAIR.			2 burnt; 3 damaged.
	NEW BRITAIN. (By American and British planes).			
	Reconnaissance over RABAUL.			
	JAPAN. (By American and British planes).			
	TOKYO (capital of Japan).			
	YOKOHAMA.			
19—4—42 (Sunday).	**GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).**			
DAY:—	**Offensive sweeps** over the DUNKIRK and CALAIS areas.			
NIGHT:—	**Laying mines** in enemy waters.			
	Enemy aerodromes in occupied FRANCE.			
	LIBYA. (By British planes).			
	The harbour at BENGHAZI.			
	Offensive sweeps over the forward areas of CYRENAICA.			
	Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole front.		13 planes.	31 planes.
	FAR EAST—BURMA. (By American and British planes).			
	Landing grounds and runaways at BASSEIN.			
	A schooner off SANDOWAY.			
	NEW BRITAIN. (By American and British planes).			
	The aerodrome, harbour and shipping at RABAUL.			
	NEW GUINEA. (By American and British planes).			
	Reconnaissances over the LAE and SALAMAUA areas.			

ENEMY Air Raids over ALLIED Territories.

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Enemies	Aircraft losses for Allies.
14—4—42 (Tuesday).	**BRITAIN. (By German planes).**			
	No information available.			
	MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
	MALTA.		9 planes.	
	FAR EAST—PHILIPPINES (By Jap planes).			
	CORREGIDOR.			
15—4—42 (Wednesday).	**BRITAIN. (By German planes).**			
NIGHT:—	**A town** on the north-east coast of ENGLAND.	Heavy damage.		
	MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
	MALTA.			
	FAR EAST—BURMA. (By Jap planes).			
	Oil fields in Upper BURMA.			
16—4—42 (Thursday).	**BRITAIN. (By German planes).**			
NIGHT:—	**One place** on the south coast of ENGLAND.	Very few casualties.		
	MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
	MALTA.			
	FAR EAST—PHILIPPINES (By Jap planes).			
	CORREGIDOR.			
	PANAY Islands. (By Jap planes).			
	Landings points on the PANAY Islands.			
17—4—42. (Friday).	**BRITAIN. (By German planes).**			
DAY:—	**Two places** on the south-west coast of ENGLAND.	A few casualties.	1 bomber.	
	MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
	MALTA.			
	FAR EAST—NEW GUINEA (By Jap planes).			
	Port MORESBY.			

ENEMY Air Raids over ALLIED Territories—*cont.*

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Enemies	Allies
18—4—42 (Saturday).				
	BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
NIGHT :—				
	A few places in southern ENGLAND.	Slight damage only.		
	MALTA.		2 planes.	
	Port MORESBY.			
19—4—42 (Sunday).				
	BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
NIGHT :—				
	South coast of ENGLAND.			
	MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
	MALTA.			
	FAR EAST—BURMA. (By Jap planes).			
	British troops in BURMA.			
20—4—42 (Monday).				
	BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
DAY :—				
	South coast of ENGLAND.			
NIGHT :—				
	South-east coast of ENGLAND.		1 plane.	
	MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
	MALTA.			
	FAR EAST—PHILIPPINES. (By Jap planes).			
	CORREGIDOR.			

SIDE LIGHTS.

MORALE, to be real is not a mere sloppy sentimental stuff—nor even a Platonic appreciation, from a safe distance of the British or Maltese variety of it, but it means the practice, for oneself, and for the sake of others, of the common, though difficult, virtues of courage, calmness, and self-help. This could not be better brought into relief than at the public meeting held in MADRAS on Monday to allay 'panic', when Mr. Morris, the Collector and Civil Defence Commissioner, had to point out that most of the problems that they were called upon to solve were those of 'self-help and organisation among the people themselves.' While in these difficult times Governments were prepared, if they could, to run even food shops and grocery depots, what was needed most for the success of these unusual efforts was courage and co-operation from the public. As a prominent speaker at the meeting observed, 'what was needed was something inside—a stout heart, and courage and determination not to yield'.

TURNING TIDE. The sensation of the week—the bombing of TOKYO and YOKOHAMA and KOBE by American planes carried over astronomical distances and now safely sheltering, perhaps, in Chinese landing places, has caused a flutter in JAPAN—from Emperor to peasant, and sent a thrill of joy to every Allied heart.

INDIA too is inclined to feel less restive. No fresh attacks have followed since COLOMBO and TRINCOMALEE, VIZAG and COCANADA. Perhaps the enemy is only reinforcing or biding his time; but it also looks as though Sir James Somerville had upset his plans, and the Royal Navy were making his position too hot in Indian waters. Surely, the loss of a hundred planes in a couple of days over CEYLON should have given him furiously to think. From BURMA comes the cheering news of the recapture of the oil-field of YENANGYAUNG and the trapping of Japanese forces.

The day of easy victories by surprise attacks is certainly gone. SINGAPORE cannot be repeated. PEARL HARBOUR has wounded but not annihilated the American Navy. So while Japanese ships prowl in the Indian Ocean the American Navy is taking a heavy toll of Japanese warships, supply ships and transports in the S. W. Pacific. We hear no more of Japanese convoys, southward bound riding through the CAROLINES.

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TIME, THE ALLY. The heroic resistance of the PHILIPPINES has given the much-needed time to the Allies. The Australian Air Force during the interval has been strengthened, and has already taken a heavy toll of the enemy at LAE, TIMOR, GASMATA and RABAUL. The Australian Imperial Forces have had time to return for home defence. American supplies, American bombers and submarines have had time to arrive in aid of AUSTRALIA. It appears that the enemy's southward drive has been halted for the time being at least.

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THE PHILIPPINES. Nor is this the only service of the PHILIPPINES Though BATAAN has fallen, CORREGIDOR holds out—so do LUZON, MINDANAO and a host of other islands. The Filipinos have still a lot of fight in them. MacArthur has said, 'I will return to the PHILIPPINES' and President Roosevelt has sent President Quezan the significant message that 'the U. S. Government will back up the Filipinos until their legitimate aspirations are fully accomplished.'

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TOKYO AND AUGSBURG. AUGSBURG has proved the European counterpart of TOKYO in the FAR-EAST. American planes flying over thousands of miles attacked TOKYO in the heart of JAPAN at noon, while British planes travelling over 600 miles struck at AUGSBURG the industrial heart of GERMANY during the day.

AXIS SPRING OFFENSIVE RECEDING. The much-advertised German spring offensive seems to have been indefinitely postponed. Nazi newspapers observe that 'it is impossible to say when the time will be ripe.' The fighting in the south has practically ceased, owing to the thaw, and heavy snow storms continue between MOSCOW and LENINGRAD.

Hitler is said to be at loggerheads with his General Staff. Uneasy about the internal situation in GERMANY, and apprehensive of an Allied attack from the west, Hitler is reported to favour an early offensive, while his General Staff would prefer to wait till June. It is also rumoured that while Hitler would prefer an advance in the south, his generals are in favour of a diversion in the north.

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THE ALLIED OFFENSIVE. That arrangements are in active preparation for an early Allied offensive against GERMANY is indicated by several utterances of the week made by responsible speakers from different parts of the globe. Here are a few extracts :—

1. 'The time will come when the defensive will be changed to the offensive.'

(*Mr. C. R. Attlee. Dy. Prime Minister, April 19.*)

2. 'We are getting pretty near the stage of an offensive, however difficult it may be. I am now more convinced than ever that we are going to get on the offensive, and at the first practicable moment.'

(*Mr. Henry Stimson, U. S. Secretary for War, April 17.*)

3. 'There is in every battle a turning point—the moment when the side which is finally going to win gets past the critical point, and begins to pick up speed which is going to bring triumph. We have not yet won the battle of production, but I honestly believe that we have passed the turning point.'

(*Mr. Donald Nelson, Chairman of the U. S. War Production Board, April 17.*)

4. 'The problem is no longer one of production but of fighting.'

(*Mr. Harry Hopkins, Lease Lend Expeditor, April 18.*)

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A BLACK BIRTHDAY. On Monday April 20, Hitler's 53rd birthday, demonstrations were held, and speeches were made by his myrmidons—Goering and Goebbels—full of fulsome flattery, little aware, that by their words they were forcing an unhappy world to recall the high crimes and misdemeanours with which their idol stood charged before the bar

of humanity, and compared with whom the names of Herod, Tamur and Chengis pale into insignificance. They called him the 'admiration of the world', described his 'uniqueness' as 'historic' and his 'statesmanship,' 'incomparable' but they were dismayed that not even their servile listeners, their own sycophants would applaud, but heard the encomiums 'in silence'. There is one phrase of Goering's, however, with which the world will agree, that Hitler was the author of the 'vast battles of destruction.' On his 53rd birthday, instead of happy dreams and rosy visions of humanitarian services, either rendered or contemplated, will rise phantoms and shapes—the ghosts of thousands upon thousands of men whom he has caused to be slaughtered on the battle-fields of EUROPE—he will hear the screams and cries of men, women and children in the cities he has bombed—he will witness the widows', the orphans', the fathers', the mothers', the brothers', the sisters' tears in a million homes he has destroyed, and like *Faust* he will see the fires of hell and demons dancing in glee to own him.

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VICHY'S PERFIDY. The return of Laval to power completes the surrender and degradation of FRANCE, and advances Vichy's collaboration with the enemy by another step. Cowards die many deaths: in her cowardice in 1940 the Vichy Government stopped hostilities in the middle of the fight, and concluded an inglorious armistice: now through perfidious Laval she has openly sided with the enemy. Vichy had already sold her sovereign rights by surrendering INDO-CHINA, and very nearly betraying SYRIA. Still, in order to get food-supplies she placated the U. S. by pretending neutrality; but increasingly pressed by the conqueror she sold away her freedom in instalments and now open capitulation has followed. The U. S. seeing through the game has recognised the Free French authority in AMERICA. BRITAIN too sees through it. The *Times* warns us, 'The aim of the Laval Ministry is subservience to GERMANY, whatever the cost to the country it pretends to represent. That is the reason for its existence, since it was brought into being under German orders for German purposes. The *Daily Mail* adds, 'The appointment of M. Laval, and the presence of Gen. von Rundstedt in PARIS, are intended as insurances against a successful diversion in the West, which may imperil the success of a renewed German offensive in the East.

But FRANCE, real FRANCE—not its make-believe at VICHY—has no illusions. As M. Garreau—the Free French Minister to the Soviet Union has broadcast from KUIBISHEV.

"Quietly, and without foolish haste, the people are preparing for the hour of revenge. By sabotage, by wearing down the morale of the enemy and organising small groups of trusted friends, the people are looking forward shortly to an uprising.

"They will carefully note down traitors and enemy accomplices, and will settle accounts with them without mercy.

"French soldiers are dying in hundreds in German prisons, while the foul snake-eyed Laval is trying to strangle the spirit of revolt which is murmuring in the very heart of FRANCE."

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THE TWO WARS. In a thoughtful article in the '*Forum*', a writer has pointed out that the present war is in fact two distinct wars— a European war of 1939–41 and a world war which commenced in 1942.

The earlier war was fought, and lost for the time being, to preserve the old European System of Sovereign National States against German aggression. BRITAIN and FRANCE were allies in this struggle. Hitler is making use of the suppressed sovereignties as bases and arsenals for the World War of 1942. The day of small nationalities, each with its strategic frontier, and military and industrial potential is gone, and Hitler has demonstrated how any one of them could be smashed in a matter of days by an industro-political machine such as he has built up. RUSSIA has also proved that 'size and quantity' alone can resist.

Thus the *destruction* of EUROPE's old order is Hitler's achievement for 1939–41. His *constructive* efforts at a *New Order*, for European peace, security and stability have however proved still-born. They have resulted in S. S. firing squads, mass-murders and reprisals.

What is the reason of the break-down?

Both the Old Order and the New have failed by not taking a *realistic* notice of the principle of nationality. The Old Order failed by over-emphasising it and the New by ignoring it altogether, while as a matter of hard fact nationality is very much alive still, and EUROPE is still composed of a number of 'ancient, proud, and indissolubly crystallised nations' who will not submit either, to 'Lebensraum', or, 'Herrenvolk' or any such nonsense. No nation, however small, is prepared to collaborate in a European system, with the Herrenvolk at top, and itself as an underdog at bottom. So Hitler's New Order has come to mean guerilla warfare, sabotage and unrest, in preparation for the day of open revolt.

The panacea for EUROPE's ills is certainly not Unity under a Master Race.

The German claim to be guiding EUROPE against its 'enemies', translated into action means the enslavement of the manhood and womanhood of all non-German EUROPE for armament and food production for the Nazi. Funk has calculated that the labour gang thus available is 131 millions, twice as large as the Allies have. Strangely enough in his account he has left out RUSSIA, CHINA and INDIA.

The following extract from the World Review exposes the pretensions of the New Order :—

"It is only too obvious that the German 'New order' lacks the very factors essential to making it a real order. The Roman Empire, which offers the best example of a continental power built by conquest, brought to foreign countries a higher culture, a better standard of living, the attraction of a better life. The third Reich cannot offer a higher culture, because the Nazi revolution took place at the time when German culture was already in decline, and the Nazis destroyed all the strongholds and centres of that culture. The third Reich cannot offer to anybody a better standard of living, because many countries—such as the Scandinavian States, Switzerland or Holland—had achieved a higher pattern of life than Germany. There is finally no attraction about the German way of living, and about Germans in general, which can work as a sort of powerful magnet for the Nazi 'new order'.

"For all these reasons, the German 'new order' remains a mechanical effort thrust upon the subjugated countries, without any differentiation being made among them, without any imaginative effort to win the support of the occupied countries. Provinces and areas have been divided up, with no obvious economic reasons for their boundaries, just to satisfy the lifeless and mechanical greed of the administrative machine.

"But the greatest enemy of the German 'new order' is the fact that one cannot create an Empire at the pace of an American moving picture ; and one cannot supersede organic growth by speed and film effects."

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THE SPIRIT OF MALTA. On the title page we publish, in tribute of admiration and in homage to the gallant spirit of MALTA, an appreciation of the great heroism which has won for it, among the countries of the Commonwealth, a unique and unprecedented distinction from His Majesty. Day after day, night after night, MALTA has been attacked incessantly from bases not 20 miles away. Since June 1940 she has had 2,000 alerts—an average of three for every twenty four hours—4,500 houses have been destroyed, but the citizens continue to hurl defiance and wonderfully enough have hit back, sinking Axis supplies to LIBYA, and pounding Italian naval and air bases at NAPLES, BRINDISI, CATANIA, SYRACUSE, LICATA, MARSALA, TRAPANI and PALERMO. They have shut up the Italian fleet in its harbours, and kept the Mediterranean open for the British convoys. MALTA fights on—an example to nations and men of the spirit that stands four-square, though the skies fall and the earth split.

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AMERICAN AID TO INDIA. Though the spotlight has just now become focussed on the great flow of American supplies to AUSTRALIA, and help rendered by American forces on land, in the air and

at sea to AUSTRALIA, the aid that AMERICA simultaneously renders to INDIA is by no means negligible. The recent raids on the ANDAMANS and the harbour of RANGOON by the American flying-fortresses based on the Indian mainland, show that the great Ally has already begun to participate in direct action in the defence of INDIA. Large shipments of planes and tanks, assembled at MASSAWA, are coming across the Arabian Sea; while other similar supplies, especially planes, come across the Atlantic, either through the Cape or the African deserts, ferried or under their own power. The fall of RANGOON has also proved an unexpected help, as the shipments originally intended for RANGOON have now been diverted to INDIA. All this is in the nature of immediate help. AMERICA is making long-range plans also, to convert INDIA into an arsenal to serve the needs of the MIDDLE and FAR EAST. The practically simultaneous arrival of the American Technical Mission and of Col. Louis Johnson, personal envoy of President Roosevelt, is important. Four factors are essential to mass production—raw materials, machinery, and labour skilled and semi-skilled. Of raw materials and general labour INDIA has enough. What INDIA lacks and AMERICA will supply are skilled workmen and the machinery—particularly machinery. Semi-skilled workers can soon be trained; but machinery is not so easy to bring into existence. There is a suggestion that machinery should be transplanted from BRITAIN and AMERICA, just as Russian factories were moved eastward at the time of the German occupation of industrial centres last year in Western RUSSIA. RUSSIA has proved that even heavy industrial plant can be transferred and put into operation in a matter of months.

The personnel of the Technical Mission that has arrived shows that AMERICA means business. Mr. Dirk Docker is Director of Personnel and Training for the Illinois Steel Corporation, and has specialised in turning unskilled into semi-skilled labour. Harry E. Beyster, President of the Beyster Engineering Company is an organiser of plants. Mr. Arthur N. Harrington has specialised in the production of armoured vehicles and automatic equipment. At the head is Dr. Henry Grady, the well known economist, while the presence of Col. Louis Johnson is a guarantee that no time will be lost in approaching President Roosevelt direct for all necessary co-ordination and supplies.

1. Speaking at NEW DELHI on Tuesday Dr. Grady said:—'AMERICA looks upon help given to INDIA as help given to the United Nations.'

2. 'American capital is enterprising, but does not think in terms of spreading itself abroad and getting control of other parts of the world'.

3. 'The American mind is direct. It does not, it cannot, think of using INDIA'S present needs to INDIA'S industrial disadvantage in the future'.

4. 'In any case, RUSSIA, CHINA and INDIA together have such enormous resources of material and man-power that, rightly developed, they should place these countries beyond fear of exploitation by any country'.

5. 'And war gives a strong inpetus to Industrial development—that is the one bright side of it—and India after the war will be strong enough to resist any industrial invasion if it were attempted.'

THE "FREE INDIA RADIO" HOAX.

(*From "The Listener" of the B. B. C.*)

There are two so-called radio stations at present broadcasting to Indian listeners. One is the Radio Himalaya, which claims to represent the labourers and peasants of all India; the other is the Free India Radio. **Each of them is a fake. Each is under Axis control and operates from Axis territory; the former from Italy, the latter from Germany.**

"The bogus 'free' station is nothing new", said Brent Wood. "The Axis has used the trick against Britain, France, Russia and several other nations. After all, the procedure is quite simple. There is nothing to prevent the Axis from sending out a broadcast from one of their own studios, announcing it as if it came from a secret transmitter inside another country, and saying the sort of thing which it thinks people would expect from such a source.

"How can a listener recognise the deception? Well, sooner or later almost every one of these fake stations says or does something which gives it away.

GOEBBELS MAKES A SLIP.

"The prize example of this came from four 'free' stations which the Axis pretends are inside Britain. These usually maintain their fraud with great plausibility, even warning listeners not to pay attention to admitted German broadcasts in English. But their downfall came on May 4 last year when Britain changed to summer time. Nobody living in Britain could have been unware of this. But it was easy to forget it at the Reich Propaganda Ministry, and for several days all four free stations went on broadcasting according to German time.

"Now the Free India station has also been exposed. Big Brother Berlin has let the cat out of the bag. A few days ago, broadcasting to India in Hindustani, the German radio said: 'Despite the greatest difficulties, we have succeeded in recording a message of Subhas Chandra Bose. We endeavoured

to ascertain the station from which he spoke, but unfortunately we have to admit that so far we have not been successful in our effort.' A recording of Bose's speech followed and then the Berlin speaker said: 'Bose's message was broadcast from an unknown station.' (*Zeesen* in Hindustani, March 4).

"This was a subtle attempt by Berlin to convince Indian listeners that, so far from having any connection with the Free India Radio, she did not even know it, and could not identify it. But right on the heels of this broadcast followed another, also from Berlin, also for India, but in English.

"This time the desire to advertise their Free India Radio overcame their prudence. The speaker said: 'for some weeks we have been listening to the messages of the Free India station.' He proceeded to give the times of the Free India station's broadcasts, and the wavelengths on which they could be heard down to the second place of decimals. He then underlined the disclosure by adding: 'That the Free India station belongs to Subhas Chandra Bose is to us a manifestation and a revelation.' (*Zeesen* in English, for India, March 4)."

THE UNITED KINGDOM'S PART.

The fall of France saw Britain bereft of practically the whole equipment of an army of over 400,000 men, and left with an army of barely 20 divisions. Today the British Army has been built up to very great dimensions, and has fought in ten campaigns. One of these was in Africa, where it totally destroyed two great Italian armies, and inflicted heavy casualties upon a third Italian and German army. Varying estimates have been given of the number of enemy troops put out of action in the African campaigns. The lowest is over 400,000 and the highest nearly 700,000.

In one period of 12 months, there was shipped from the U. K. to the Middle East over 1,000,000 tons of supplies and over 30,000 vehicles and tanks, which required 308 ships, and which in terms of ton-miles represents 12,000,000,000.

Of the casualties suffered by the armies of the British Empire more than 70 per cent. were suffered by United Kingdom troops.

GARRISONS PROVIDED.

In addition to the campaigns waged, the army has also had to provide garrisons for vital bases and potential theatres of war abroad, including Iceland, Gibraltar, Malta, Cyprus, the Middle East and India.

On every front where the British armies have been engaged, and on the Russian fronts as well, the R. A. F. have taken their share in the fighting. Aircraft of the Coastal Command have flown over 50,000,000 miles over the Atlantic and across the North Sea, to the coasts of Germany and occupied France. During the first two years of war, the Coastal Command gave air escort to 7,000 convoys, which entailed 27,000 operational sorties.

The Fighter Command compelled Germany to keep in the west more than half her available fighters, at a time when those fighters might have played a vital part in great battles on the Russian front.

The Bomber Command dropped over enemy targets in January and February over 50 per cent. more bombs than in the same two months last year. Between September, 1938, and the end of February, 1942, 8,754 German and Italian planes were brought down by the R. A. F. and by the Dominion and Allied squadrons operating with it, or by British anti-aircraft fire. Six hundred and forty-two were brought down by naval and merchant vessels or by the Fleet Air Arm, making a grand total of 9,396, in addition to enemy planes brought down in Russia and the Far East.

Taking figures as they stood in February, 1942, 89 per cent. of the aircraft, 72 per cent. of the air crews and 98 per cent. of the ground personnel in Britain were products and citizens of the U. K. itself. Overseas 75 per cent. of the aircraft, 83 per cent. of the air crews and 99 per cent. of the ground crews were from the U. K.

The United Kingdom is now producing in tanks three times as much as a year ago, and five times as much as in the spurt after Dunkirk.

MORE SHIPS BUILT.

In the last quarter of 1941 the tonnage of naval ships completed was very nearly four times as great as in the last quarter before the war. The tonnage of merchant ships completed was twice as great. Combined naval and merchant ship-building now in active progress is bigger, not only in scale but in current daily volume of execution, than it was in any period of the last war. Production of all kinds of material for the army is now more than three times as great as that in the after-Dunkirk period, and ten times as great as on the outbreak of war.

From July, 1940, to May, 1941, enemy planes were over Britain nine days out of ten, and on all but 30 nights. Up to the end of 1941, 43,357 men, women and children had been killed, and 49,986 men, women and children seriously injured. In 1941 for every two aircraft brought into the British Isles nearly ten were sent out. Of tanks 15 were sent out for every one brought in. Vast supplies were sent to Russia. Up to January 31 Britain had fulfilled every obligation to Russia with the exception of one single tank. For many months in the past 80 per cent. of all army material produced in Britain has been sent overseas.

63% OF TOTAL ALLIED TONNAGE.

Of a total of 12,000,000 sea miles covered by British ships every month, 10,000,000 are covered by United Kingdom ships. As on September 30, 1941, 63 per cent. of the total Allied tonnage belonged to the United Kingdom. There are 600 naval vessels at sea at any given moment, and some of them stay at sea for periods undreamed of in pre-war days. From November, 1940,

H. M. S. *Cumberland* was at sea for 206 days out of a total of 213. By the end of December, 1941, the cruiser *Shropshire* had steamed 167,700 miles; the destroyer *Forester* had steamed 172,000 miles and had been at sea for 601 days. One destroyer flotilla of eight ships passed the million miles mark in June, 1941. In addition, the British Navy has penned up the enemy's main forces in home waters, and limited their activities on the high seas. Together with the R. A. F. it has sunk or damaged over 5,250,000 tons of enemy merchant shipping. It has sunk three enemy capital ships, 13 cruisers, 54 destroyers, many submarines and still more small navy auxiliaries, besides damaging innumerable others. **Apart from recent operations in the Far East, United Kingdom forces have sunk 86 per cent. of the German and Italian surface warships so far destroyed; sunk or captured 89 per cent. of all enemy merchant ships put out of action; and sunk 94 per cent. of the enemy submarines destroyed by all Allies.**

AMERICAN INDUSTRY'S PLEDGE.
HOW TOTALITARIAN CHALLENGE WILL BE MET.

American industry pledges that its production to arm the fighting forces will be limited only by the human endurance of the men who man and manage its facilities and by the amount of raw materials available, President Walter D. Fuller of the National Association of Manufacturers declares in this article.

On Sunday afternoon, December 7 last year, when Japanese planes ruthlessly bombed our naval base at Pearl Harbour, Hawaii, America suddenly awoke to find herself confronted with the greatest challenge this nation had ever been called upon to meet. This challenge increased immeasurably in its portent with the declaration of war against Germany and Italy forced upon us four days later.

We are now confronted not only with the task of speedily arming America for the defence of her very shores, but also arming, and even feeding, those nations which are still fighting for freedom and which to a very large extent are dependent upon American resources and productive capacity to wage effective battle.

SEVENTY-ONE BILLION DOLLARS.

For that double task the United States Government through democratic processes had by November 25 last year appropriated or committed itself to an expenditure of more than seventy-one billions of the American people's dollars. (A billion in America is a thousand million). This great sum may be more than doubled before the challenge is finally met.

It is all very well to appropriate billions of dollars for defence, but tanks, planes, battleships and submarines cannot be fought with paper dollars. They must be fought with more submarines, more ships, more warplanes and more tanks.

For the job of turning dollars into arms and munitions, American industry has been commissioned.

The same American industry that in peacetime provided the American people with 72 per cent. of the world's pleasure cars, 50 per cent. of the world's telephones and 45 per cent. of the radios, must now almost overnight provide America with actual war machines with which to defend herself and help her Allies.

FORMER TASK DWARFED.

Now American territory has been viciously and wantonly attacked without warning; American lives have been lost, ships sunk, and planes shot down from the skies and blown up on the ground.

By comparison with the new challenge the task of a few weeks ago seems dwarfed. America is at war, and the production of armaments must be doubled and quadrupled by American industry, new factories built, old ones added to, idle ones refitted and put to work. Factories producing defence materials must work 24 hours per day, seven days per week.

Industry pledges that its production to arm our fighting forces will be limited only by the human endurance of the men who man and manage its facilities and by the amount of raw materials available.

Lest they be of use to the enemy, new figures giving the actual production of armaments cannot now be released, but the American people are entitled to know what progress American industry has been able to make in producing materials for the defence of freedom everywhere. At the time of the cowardly attack upon American soil by the Japanese on December 7 last year, thirteen of the seventy-one billion had already been delivered on December 1, and the flow of materials was just beginning to be large, steady and effective, and industrial production had increased by more than 30 per cent.

14 PER CENT MORE ELECTRIC POWER.

Electric power output vital for running factory machines has increased 14 per cent. A bumper wheat crop will provide enough wheat for the United States and Britain for two years.

Special Government stock piles of necessary raw materials to feed the factories are now valued at over one billion dollars, and there is plenty of oil to run and lubricate our machines of war.

On November 23 last year, eight months and 12 days after Congress approved the Lend-Lease Bill, over one billion dollars worth of aid had been sent to Britain

and other countries fighting for their lives and freedom. This sum included one hundred and eleven million dollars worth of food.

On December 1, we were sending 500 warplanes to Britain a month. This year we will be sending them at the rate of at least 650 a month.

RECORD OF PRODUCTION.

The record of production to date in several vital fields is as follows: Machine-tools rate of production increased in one year from four hundred and fifty million dollars to over seven hundred and fifty million dollars a year. This means that the number of machine-tools available to cut, drill, bore, grind and shape the metal going into tanks, airplanes, ships and guns has increased in one year by about two-thirds. Without machine-tools, armaments would have to be made by hand.

Materials—Steel is being produced at the rate of eighty-two million net tons a year and ninety-five million estimated for next year; oil: one point two billion barrels, one point four this year; magnesium: thirty million pounds, sixty-six million this year; smokeless powder: ninety-three million pounds; next year three hundred and seventy-four million pounds. These materials are among the essentials for the manufacture of munitions.

TWO WARSHIPS A DAY.

Ships in November—New warships were launched at the rate of over one daily. Thirty-three ships included the 35,000 ton battleship *Indiana* and the 10,000 ton cruiser *Cleveland*. Four destroyers and a submarine were launched and one destroyer and one submarine commissioned. Keels for 52 new ships were laid, including one cruiser, nine destroyers and a submarine. **By this year ships will be launched at the rate of two daily. Merchantmen are now being produced at the rate of 84,000 tons a month. Next year the rate will be 230,000 tons a month.**

Airplanes—More than 1,900 warplanes were produced in September—thrice the number produced at the beginning of the present defence effort, twice the number produced in September, 1940. The aviation industry has been asked to produce 50,000 airplanes a year, a figure which, according to present estimates, can be accomplished next year. Plane production last year including commercial planes suitable for military use approaches a total of 26,000; for the current year the total is expected to be about 39,000 new planes.

26,000 TANKS THIS YEAR.

Tanks—Last year approximately 5,000 of all kinds of tanks were built—ten times the 1940 output. But this will be dwarfed by the current year's tank quota of about 26,000. Production of light tanks increased six times last year. Fifteen times more of medium tanks were finished than in 1940.

Guns—Thrice the number of 30 calibre aircraft machine-guns, thrice the number of 60-mm., mortars and twice the number of a new type of rifles were produced this year.

Encouraging as this production record of industry may seem at first glance, it is still far from enough to meet the new emergency. It must be remembered that these production figures and estimates for next year were as of December 1, before the United States' entry into the war. Would it be unreasonable to assume, for example, that we now recognize the need to make 50,000 or 60,000 or even 70,000 new planes next year instead of the 39,000 estimated?

GOODS FOR CIVILIANS.

In accepting the challenge to produce armaments for the defence of America, industry realizes that "defence" means more than the production of military equipment alone, although that must come ahead of all else. All-out defence calls for the production of goods to sustain civilian morale, calls for technological research behind the scenes even during wartime to provide new products and materials against the coming peacetime.

On December 8, the day war was declared against Japan, I informed the President of the United States and the Speaker of the House of Representatives in Washington that "Industry stands squarely behind the President and Congress in the fateful action taken today".

TWO SHIPS FOR ONE SUNK.

On behalf of American industry it is my privilege to reiterate that pledge to the American people themselves, in view of the additional burden now forced upon as by Germany and Italy, that industry will build two battleships for every one sunk. It will match every bomb with a dozen. It will blacken the skies with planes to replace those shot down.

With every other patriotic element in the country American industry is on the march. It will produce, produce and produce to the end that victory shall be swift and sure and final, that freedom shall not perish from the earth and that there shall be goodwill among men.

A GOVERNMENT THAT GOVERNS NOBODY. WANG CHING-WEI A JAPANESE PUPPET

by

A Special Correspondent.

The establishment, formal recognition of, and conclusion of a so-called Treaty of Alliance with the Wang Ching-wei "Government" at Nanking constitute a series of cynical frauds which it would be difficult to parallel even in the dubious record of Japanese intrigues in China—and Korea. Prior to the outbreak of Sino-Japanese hostilities in July, 1937, Wang Ching-wei hap been one of the bitterest critics of the policy of non-resistance to Japanese

aggression. It was Wang's scathing denunciation of the Young Marshal's (Chang Hsueh-liang's) failure to offer resistance to the Japanese invasion of Manchuria, accompanied by his own resignation, that led to the Manchurian warlord's retirement. Typical of the views that he expressed at this time was a statement that: "While realising that China is not Japan's equal in military equipment, we are determined that no amount of brute force on the part of Japan shall make us yield into signing humiliating treaties and agreements".

During the earlier phases of the present Sino-Japanese hostilities, Wang Ching-wei's voice was raised as loudly as that of any other Chinese leader in favour of resistance to the death. His *volte face* and advocacy of peace by negotiation—i. e., surrender, apparently came as the result of long-cherished opposition to and jealousy of, the Generalissimo, Chiang Kai-Shek. He succeeded however in concealing his intention of betraying his country, until he had surreptitiously effected his escape into French Indo-China by aeroplane, in December, 1939.

WANG CHING-WEI A GODSEND.

The Japanese at that time had been driven almost to distraction by their failure to find a prominent Chinese leader to head their projected puppet régime. They had installed so-called provisional and reformed governments composed of elderly, discredited and anti-Kuomintang ex-officials at Peking and at Nanking. They had striven in vain to induce the old patriot, Marshal Wu Pei-fu, to come out of retirement and assume the leadership of an administration which would co-operate with Japan. He refused to consider the idea unless Japanese troops were withdrawn from China.

The defection of Wang Ching-wei therefore appeared to offer a heaven-sent opportunity for making a fresh start in organising a puppet government for all China. Wang Ching-wei was enthusiastically received by the Japanese military, was taken to Tokyo, and on a tour of the principal occupied cities, and then installed as head of the so-called reformed government at Nanking. To the "Reorganised National Government" Japan accredited an ex-premier, General M. Abe, as Envoy Extraordinary, and Ambassador Plenipotentiary, to negotiate a new "Sino-Japanese" treaty. General Abe reached Nanking on April 23, 1940. It was not until November 30 that the treaty and annexés were signed.

A COMPLETE SELL-OUT.

They constituted a complete sell-out of China. For the long list of concessions, political, economic, and military, that Nanking made there was no *quid pro quo* whatsoever, if one excepts the nebulous proviso (Article VII) for the abolition of extra-territoriality and the rendition of the concessions. (For these no date was specified). The Japanese boasted that they had not secured any cessions of territory, or demanded any indemnity. There was no

need for the former when Japanese troops were to remain on Chinese soil for an indefinite period, and all trade control was to be subject to Japanese approval. As to the indemnity, notwithstanding Japanese professions, the "Government of the Republic of China" had to undertake to "compensate the damages to rights and interests suffered by Japanese subjects in China on account of the China Affair since its outbreak". **Under the pretence of "co-operation" Japan acquires monopolistic control of China's mineral resources in the Northern Provinces and Inner Mongolia, and of trade and commerce "in the lower basin of the Yangtse River".** What amounts to the permanent military occupation of Inner Mongolia and North China is provided for, under the pretence of "defence against communistic activities". In other parts of China, the withdrawal of Japanese forces is only to take place within two years of "the firm establishment of peace and order".

The conclusion of this treaty was regarded with complete indifference throughout China. Most thinking Chinese considered it the consummation of China's betrayal—as merely putting on paper conditions of helotry which had notoriously existed ever since his Japanese masters installed Wang Ching-wei in Nanking eight months previously.

SERVANTS OF THE JAPANESE.

It would be difficult to imagine anything more pitiful or more humiliating than the position of the members of the "Reorganised National Government". They can only venture forth from their "Capital" at the risk of assassination, especially in the Shanghai area. Nanking remains a Japanese garrison city, where despite the pledge of withdrawal two years after the firm establishment of peace and order, additional properties are constantly being requisitioned for the use of the Japanese Army. The city gates and the railway station are guarded by Japanese troops and gendarmerie, to whom all Chinese, even officials of the new Government, have to raise their hats and bow every time they pass through. Most of them are compelled to alight from their vehicles and walk through the gates as a sign of respect for their conquerors.

The walls of buildings throughout the city are plastered with Japanese patent medicine advertisements, which combine advertising of the "New Order" with that of their own preparations. Forged Central Bank of China currency is being scattered throughout the countryside, under the pretence that the fake notes constitute certificates for the "safe conduct" of deserters from the Chungking forces. A new Central Reserve Bank, with little or no capital or reserves, has been established and given a note-issuing monopoly. What its currency is considered worth by the Japanese is shown by the fact that all railway fares and public utilities accounts in Nanking are demanded in Japanese military yen, which in many instances can only be acquired by first converting the new Nanking notes into the genuine national currency.

CAMPAIGN OF TERRORISM.

In acquiring public confidence or respect the Nanking régime has made little, if any, headway. Its chief claim to notoriety has been its campaign of terrorism, in association with the Special Service Section of the Japanese Army, in Shanghai. Prominent Chinese including many journalists loyal to the Chungking Government, have been " blacklisted ", and then murdered or kidnapped.

The Nanking Government is chronically short of revenue, for the Japanese Army and Navy lay their hands on most of the funds that were collected by the legal Government of China, including the customs and salt revenues. The bulk of these funds are believed to be used for the purchase of foreign exchange.

In the Shanghai area there has been an orgy of crime and corruption. Gaming houses and brothels, opium dens and the narcotic traffic, flourish with the connivance of the Japanese gendarmerie and the Chinese police, and kidnapping is rampant.

Look where one will, one can see no signs of any actual authority being wielded by the so-called Reorganised Government. It would be swept out of its capital within 48 hours if the Japanese garrison withdrew.

WHAT TO DO IN AN AIR RAID.

THE LESSONS OF RANGOON.

"TAKE SHELTER WHEN SIREN SOUNDS".

by

H. D. Latham.

(Mr. H. D. Latham, who visited Rangoon recently to study the A. R. P. measures taken there gives in this article the lessons to be learnt from the air raids on Rangoon. He stresses the need for taking cover and staying in trenches and the prompt destruction of incendiary bombs.)

On the morning of December 23, Rangoon received warning that Japanese planes were on their way towards the City, a good 25 minutes before the first bomb was dropped. In spite of all this ample warning and in spite of months of previous instruction, there were still thousands of people in the open when the bombs began to drop. The Japanese in their cunningness realized that for a first raid, the curiosity of the population would get the better of its sense of self-protection and accordingly made a deliberate attack on the civilian population making full use of Anti-Personnel bombs.

"CURIOSITY MUST BE SUPPRESSED."

Now these Anti-Personnel bombs do not penetrate very deeply before exploding, in fact they explode immediately on impact and the fragments are scattered all around keeping very low and close to the ground. I examined several places where these bombs fell and it was clear to see how low the fragments of the bombs travelled—the road was scarred on the surface for some considerable distance from the actual crater by low-flying fragments, the kerb stones of the pavements were smashed to pieces, the ground floors of shops and houses were heavily scarred and chipped. All glass for hundreds of feet around had been smashed. At one street junction alone, over 100 people who failed to take cover were killed. Even those who lay flat on the ground when they heard the bombs coming were killed or wounded.

These casualties brought home to the people of Rangoon as nothing else could the tremendous necessity for taking shelter immediately the siren alarm sounds. One's natural curiosity must be suppressed at all costs. Not only are there fragments of bursting bombs flying around, but also pieces of shell, machine-gun bullets and even falling planes which have been destroyed in the air. Remember everything that goes up in the air has to come down.

So the first and foremost lesson of the "Blitz" on Rangoon was "Take Shelter."

If yau can do so quickly, make for some substantial building of brick or stone—if such a building is not close by, make for a shelter or slit trench.

BOMBS AND BRICKWORK.

I examined the effects of many bombs which had fallen in streets where people had been killed. Where bomb fragments had struck brick or stone walls there had been a good deal of ploughing up of the brick but I saw very few cases in which they had penetrated more than four or five inches into the brick, in fact it was astonishing how little effect these bomb fragments had on brickwork. I saw several shelters made of brick which had been struck by fragments from bombs bursting close by ; the brickwork had only been scarred and in no case had splinters penetrated right through the brickwork.

A good shelter or a good slit trench provides almost complete protection against anything except a direct hit. One of the large A. P. bombs used by the Japanese burst in a wooden bungalow, completely demolishing half the building and leaving a crater 25 feet in diameter where that half of the building had stood.. Within ten yards of the edge of this crater, the occupants of the bungalow had taken shelter in a slit trench which had very shallow head cover—they all escaped unscathed though this was one of the biggest bombs dropped on Rangoon by the Japanese.

I have heard various rumours, obviously initiated by Fifth Columnists, that slit trenches are not safe because Japanese planes made deliberate

attempts to machine-gun people sheltering in these trenches. When it is realized that Japanese planes seldom came below 17,000 feet and that slit trenches are constructed in a zig-zag fashion, it can be seen that the possibility of accurate shooting at slit trenches by a plane travelling at 200 miles per hour is extremely remote. As a matter of fact, I gathered from reliable official sources that there was very little machine-gunning of civilian personnel on the ground. Most of the casulaties were definitely caused by Anti-Personnel bombs falling amongst people who failed to take cover.

"KEEP CALM."

In one unfortunate case, a bomb did fall into a slit trench, causing some casualties. This caused panic amongst others sheltering in close by trenches who, instead of keeping calm and remaining under cover in their trenches till the 'Raiders Passed' sounded, started climbing out of the trenches when another bomb fell causing many casualties amongst those standing in the open. If only they had kept calm and stayed quietly in their trenches, very few casualties would have resulted. **The second lesson of the "Blitz" was "Keep Calm."**

When taking shelter in buildings, remember to keep away from glass windows. Wherever bombs fell near houses, all glass for hundreds of feet around was smashed and flying fragments of glass are a cause of serious danger. If possible try and get four solid walls all around you or at least keep away from windows and shelter in the corner of a room protected from any possible blast coming through open windows and doors—the room under a table or under a bed in a corner are good places.

INCENDIARY BOMBS.

The Japanese also dropped a new type of incendiary bomb weighing about 40lb. These bombs exploded on impact scattering around a number of pencil-shaped incendiaries four to six inches in length. Another type contained round black rubber balls. These latter would roll away into nooks and crannies of a building and smoulder away, setting fire to any inflammable material in contact with them. Water merely extinguished these round incendiaries temporarily. As soon as they became dry, they started smouldering again. These latter incendiaries were the cause of fires thought to have been extinguished bursting out again. It is therefore essential where incendiaries have fallen to make a thorough search and see that all these incendiary components have been disposed of. It is a comparatively simple matter to dispose of them by smothering them with sand and removing them by means of a shovel. It must however be done quickly.

PROGRAMME OF LECTURES

OF THE

Pudukkottai State War Information Bureau.

1942—

LECTURE XCII—(*Batch 4*).

April	... 25, Saturday ...	Town Hall	...	6.30 p. m.
	26, Sunday ...	Muslim Association, Pudukkottai.		5.30 p. m.
		Nirpalani	...	6.00 p. m.
		Avoor	...	6.30 p. m.
	27, Monday ...	Karaiyur	...	6.00 p. m.
		Idaiyattur	...	6.30 p. m.
	28, Tuesday ...	Andakkulam	...	6.00 p. m.
		Killanur	...	6.30 p. m.
	29, Wednesday.	Vadavalam	...	6.00 p. m.
		Sammattividuthi	...	6.30 p. m.
	30, Thursday ...	Kiranur	...	6.00 p. m.
		Nanjur	...	6.30 p. m.
May	... 1, Friday ...	Kulipirai	...	6.00 p. m.
		Sevalur	...	6.30 p. m.

LECTURE XCIII—(*Batch 5*).

2, Saturday ...	Town Hall	...	6.30 p. m.
3, Sunday ...	Tiruvarangulam	...	6.00 p. m.
	Vamban	...	6.30 p. m.
4, Monday ...	Adanur	...	6.00 p. m.
	Aramanaippatti	...	6.30 p. m.
5, Tuesday ...	Kulavoipatti	...	6.00 p. m.
	Kilaiyur (South)	...	6.30 p. m.
6, Wednesday	Vellanur	...	6.00 p. m.
	Sembattur	...	6.30 p. m.
7, Thursday ...	Puliyur	...	6.00 p. m.
	Kannangudi	...	6.30 p. m.
8, Friday ...	Pallivasal	...	6.00 p. m.
	Pillamangalam	...	6.30 p. m.

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